



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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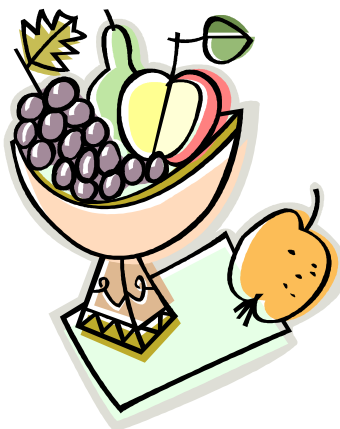
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WASHINGTON'S 2005 APPLE CROP DOWN 6 PERCENT

OLYMPIA, Wash., January 27, 2006--
“**Washington’s** 2005 apple crop is estimated at 5.8 billion pounds”, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service’s Washington Field Office. This is a decrease of 6 percent from last year. This estimate is for the total crop, which includes apples packed for the fresh market as well as the portion of the crop that will be diverted to processing uses. The National Agricultural Statistics Service does not provide utilization estimates of the crop until July when a larger portion of the crop has been marketed. A preliminary estimate of the value of production for the 2005 crop is \$1.11 billion, a decrease of 5 percent from last year.

This value estimate is based on only three months of fresh market price data from the 2005 marketing season and a projected processing price based on AMS, Market News Service (MNS) data. The MNS’s Apple Processing Report released on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 indicated that juice prices were averaging \$30/ton while peelers were \$50/ton. At approximately this same time last year, MNS reported that juice prices were averaging \$20-\$30/ton and peelers were \$50-\$60/ton. An updated value of production estimate will be published in July, when a majority of the crop has cleared the marketing channels.



FRUITS: PRODUCTION, PRICE, & VALUE, WASHINGTON, 2003-05

Crop & Year	Bearing Acreage	Utilized Production	Average Price	Value of Utilized Production 1/	Value Per Bearing Acre	Fresh Market		Processed	
						Quantity	Avg. Price	Quantity	Avg. Price
Apples	Acres	Tons	\$ Per Ton	\$1,000	Dollars	Tons	\$ Per Ton	Tons	\$ Per Ton
2003	155,000	2,275,000	518	1,178,020	7,600	1,800,000	628	475,000	100.00
2004	155,000	3,075,000	320	986,215	6,363	2,300,000	412	775,000	49.80
2005	155,000	2,900,000	380	1,103,400	7,119	July 6, 2006		July 6, 2006	
Apricots									
2003	1,200	4,900	1,100	5,387	4,489	-	-	-	-
2004	1,200	6,800	921	6,260	5,217	-	-	-	-
2005	1,200	5,600	997	5,584	4,653	-	-	-	-
Sweet Cherries									
2003	27,000	118,000	1,430	169,118	6,264	96,000	1,640	22,000	531
2004	29,000	134,000	1,770	236,609	8,159	99,000	2,220	35,000	481
2005	29,000	138,000	2,430	334,817	11,545	113,000	2,830	25,000	601
Tart Cherries									
2003	-	10,050	646	6,492	-	-	-	-	-
2004	-	8,750	618	5,409	-	-	-	-	-
2005	1,600	8,250	478	3,951	-	-	-	-	-
Bartlett Pears									
2003	11,500	185,000	321	59,325	5,159	59,000	525	126,000	225
2004	11,800	171,000	296	50,535	4,283	51,000	530	120,000	196
2005	11,800	170,000	340	57,858	4,903	64,000	584	106,000	193
Winter Pears									
2003	14,000	237,000	295	69,827	4,988	-	-	-	-
2004	14,500	195,000	397	77,470	5,343	-	-	-	-
2005	14,500	230,000	416	95,611	6,594	-	-	-	-
Peaches									
2003	2,900	19,500	473	9,228	3,182	-	-	-	-
2004	2,900	21,500	349	7,502	2,587	-	-	-	-
2005	2,900	22,000	535	11,777	4,061	-	-	-	-
Prunes & Plums									
2003	800	4,700	337	1,584	1,980	-	-	-	-
2004	800	5,500	193	1,059	1,324	-	-	-	-
2005	800	3,200	528	1,691	2,114	-	-	-	-
Nectarines 2/									
2003									
2004									
2005	1,200	10,400	570	5,928	4,940	-	-	-	-

1/ Prices based at packinghouse door and processing plant door.

2/ Washington estimates began in 2005.

- Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

To access the entire release, including the complete narrative and tables click on

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